

the latest **ISSUE**

SACRAMENTO'S NEWS MAGAZINE FOR THE GAY COMMUNITY AND ITS FRIENDS

Genetic Link Found

Were We Born Gay?

See Story on Page 15



volume five
issue four

FREE

mid-august
ninety-three

Clinton Buckles Under
Pressure -- What's Next
for Gays in the Military?
See story on page 11





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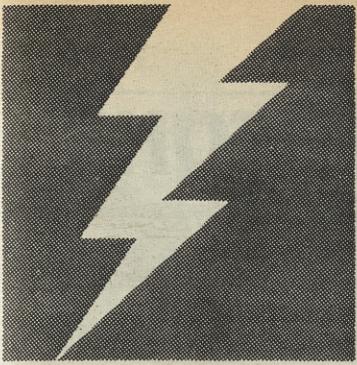
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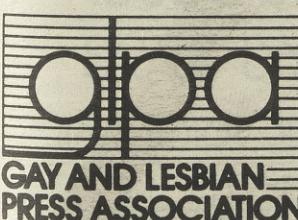
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BRIAN ASHBY

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!!! really I MUST SAY!

Lip Service on Civil Rights

Editor,

I am appalled by President Clinton's endorsement of continued discrimination under his dishonorable "Don't Talk, Don't Touch" policy for gays in the military. Private off-duty behavior, that has absolutely no detrimental impact on the armed services is still outlawed by our government. I find that kind of dictatorial invasion of privacy to be morally repugnant and un-American.

Clinton's position did not surprise me. It has always been clear that the Democrats will pay lip service to civil rights and equality for lesbians, gays, and bisexuals, because sometimes it is politically expedient. It is typical for the so-called "liberal" politicians to make a promise to us, break it, then have the gall to insist that the promise was fulfilled. I think it's high time we demanded better treatment from the people we support.

Fortunately, there is an alternative to the Democrats. The Green Party has endorsed full equality from its inception, including total lifting of the ban, same-sex marriages, and full parental rights. One of the cornerstones of the Green philosophy is the idea that full social justice is critical to the development of a healthy and sustainable society. The Green Party has a true commitment, based on what is right and necessary, not what is politically expedient.

I urge supporters of equal rights to register Green, support Green candidates, and run for office as Greens. Let's send a message to Washington that we won't be lied to anymore.

Glenn Mitchell
Green Party of California

Safe-Sex is Healthy Sex

Editor,

I wanted to commend your article in the July edition of the latest ISSUE in which you addressed the safety in the sex-clubs of San Francisco.

For so many years the gay and lesbian press has turned a blind eye to the existence of these clubs, and in doing so has

allowed the club owners to promote unsafe and unrestricted sex.

We have lost too many of our friends to AIDS, and it is time to make these greedy sex club owners focus more on promoting safety than on promoting themselves.

Thanks again for your fine work for the gay community.
Bill Weiss

A New Latest ISSUE Fan

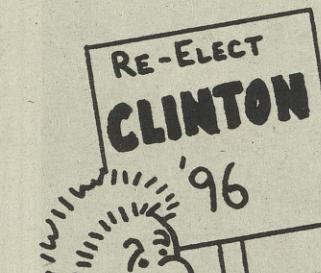
Editor,

Hi! I'm new to the Sacramento-- I came from the great northwest, Seattle Washington.

There's a large gay community there, with a great newspaper called "Seattle Gay News." It's the only monthly publication I've ever read. It's one of the things I thought I'd miss the most when I came to California.

But last week I came across a free copy of your "latest ISSUE"-- and just had to write and tell you how very impressed I was with your publication. It could never replace my old regular "SGN" but the quality is outstanding. You all really put a truly interesting gay newspaper together.

Z
eitler



I'll always miss my hometown paper. (After all it was my 1st!) But now I'm relieved to know that yours is just as entertaining with good news and layouts just like I'm used to seeing.

I guess I have no more to worry about and I will survive my stay (2 years) here in Sacramento after all.

Keep up the fantastic work!
Your new fan,
Ronn Stearns Franz

Thank You From SAGA IV

Editor,

On behalf of SAGA IV and all the folks who attended the Teresa Trull concert on July 10, thank you for your help in putting on a wonderfully enjoyable concert.

Her accompanying pianist, Kiki Ebsen, and the opening comic, Sabrina Matthews, teamed up with Teresa to put on a show that was fun, joyful and entirely memorable. We're grateful to them for sharing their talents, and grateful to you for helping bring them here. Keep up the great work.

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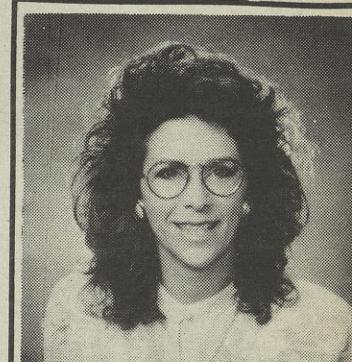
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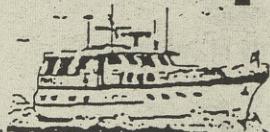
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AROUND TOWN

20th Street - A Walk On The Not So Wild Side

A Commentary
by Michael R. Gorman

This article is a commentary, not a news piece; let me make that very clear. That means that the article will include facts, but it will also include my personal spin on the situation I describe. I will do my best to distinguish between the two. Responsible writers do that.

I originally set out to write a piece on juvenile hustlers in the area of 20th and K streets. Then I read an article in the Sutertown News about a broad range of crime problems in the area. The front page had a pic-

ture of the Western and Faces below a bold headline that read "Sin Street." The story lead read "A short stretch along a midtown street has apparently turned into a center for drug-dealing and male prostitution."

Since the description of the area did not fit with my own experiences there, I decided to enlighten myself by broadening my story angle and heading down to Faces to work the streets.

At nine o'clock on an August Friday night I parked by the Mercantile and began my walk. I remember being glad that I had decided not to interview underage gay hustlers. There were none. That is not to say that there are never any kids selling themselves for survival, but on that night the only hustlers I found were non-gay and well on their way to not being carded, ever.

My first stroll up 20th as far as J Street yielded nothing but bar patrons walking peacefully



BRIAN ASHBY

Prostitution on Broadway. Is this the new "Sin Street?"

toward their favorite watering holes. I circled twice around the abandoned Miller and Skelton

mortuary building ("the site of much hidden, illicit activity" ac-
continued on page 27

New Direction at Lambda Center

by Chris Olsen and Kate Moore

Joanna Cassese has a long list of plans to change the Lambda Community Center, and as newly appointed executive director she has the opportunity to make those changes work for the diverse lesbian/gay community.

Cassese worked in medical sales for 13 years prior to taking the job at the center. The pay for executive director is \$24,000 a year -- a dramatic decrease from the six figure salary she enjoyed in her previous job. "I now have achieved all of my material goals," she said, "now I want to feel good about my contribution to my community."

New projects that Cassese hopes to implement at the Center include an education/awareness program called H.E.A.L. (Health Education and Awareness for Lesbians). HEAL will focus on increasing the awareness of lesbians and bisexual women to their risk of and breast and other female cancers.

In addition to a greater focus on women's health issues, she wants the Center to appeal to older lesbians, gays and bisexuals. "These are the people who

have led the way... they deserve to have a Center that has some-
continued on page 10



BRIAN ASHBY

Joanna Cassese is the new executive Director at Lambda.

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Aug. 22 - Healing Service - People with HIV/AIDS and their loved ones are welcome to participate.

Facing Issues of Drugs and Alcohol

Recovery Program Opens For Gay Community

by Ken Locke

Due to what they see as a tremendous need in the gay, lesbian, and bisexual community, Michael Wycuff and his lover Phillip Fisher have founded the Black and White Alcohol and Drug Recovery Program.

The program was borne out of their experiences with drug and alcohol abuse, and what they saw as a pressing need for a program specifically designed for gays, lesbians and bisexuals.

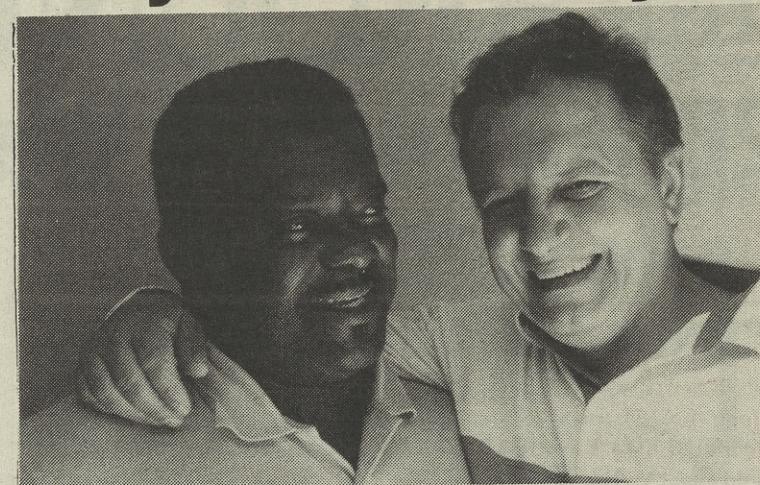
In 1984, Michael Wycuff was

working as an inspector at Aerojet, and was absent about three hours of five work days due to his addiction to alcohol, metamphetamines, marijuana, and cocaine. "Aerojet had a policy," explained Wycuff, "that if you told them you had a prob-

lem with alcohol or drugs, they wouldn't fire you."

Due to the expensiveness of his habit, Wycuff was in constant financial jeopardy, and he and Fisher would move every three months to avoid paying rent; he had lost two other jobs over his addiction, and could not afford to lose this one. Aerojet insisted that Wycuff get help. In January of 1985, he checked into the Sacramento Community Hospital Care Unit (which has since been closed).

Wycuff still vividly recalls "the terror of revealing my sexual identity in public. But after I was there a week, I knew that if I didn't I would never be able to stay clean and sober." Coming out to the group, Wycuff was "crying and half-way hysterical. I found support from ninety percent of them. There was one man who told me I was going to burn in hell." The staff exacerbated this situation by making them roommates. "It was very abusive and stupid," Wycuff said. "I guess they thought we would work things out. Their intentions were good, but their approach



Phil Fisher and Mike Wycuff pose in front of their J Street office.

was pathetic." It was during his treatment that he decided to open "a clinic for us--where the kind of terror that I had felt would be removed."

Phil Fisher had been drinking since he was nine years old, and it became particularly problematic in adulthood. His addiction to metamphetamines and pharmaceutical drugs began when he was 22 years old and in the Army. His addiction persisted and worsened throughout his relationship with Wycuff, until "I just could not tolerate what I had become. I

was using every day; I was devastating our bank account until toward the end, no money was going into the account. I had been out of work for a considerable period of time." Finally, he sought help from the Veterans Administration and checked himself into the Sacramento Community Hospital Care Unit three weeks after Wycuff. "It really cost me," said Fisher. "You just can't maintain normal living like that." In fact, their relationship had become increasingly abusive and chaotic until they both sought help.

Wycuff and Fisher, deciding to create a program for gays, lesbians, sought the help of Keith Johnson, who had gotten clean and sober in the summer of 1985. As the only gay member of the Sacramento County Planning Committee, Johnson sought out opinions of people who felt the need for a program such as that which Wycuff and Fisher were proposing. Collecting more than 1,200 sugges

continued on page 27

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Summer's End Brings Rainbow Festival Benefit

by D. Oldham

Once again Sacramento is gearing up for the summer's last party - the annual Rainbow Festival, held Labor Day weekend.

The event has grown to almost a full week, beginning on the Tuesday, August 31 with a "Rave" party at Faces (2000 K Street). The party will feature loud dance music and is not recommended for the rhythmically impaired or for those who can not accessorize in a trendy manner.

On Wednesday, Sept. 1 the traditional "Kick-off" party is being thrown by entertainers Jo Tierney and Stacey. The band "Second Wind" will be performing in the tent at 20th and K Streets and is scheduled to begin at 10 p.m., so arrive early to get a good seat -- these women really pack the house.

Thursday is Country Night, featuring Country Western music and dance contest... "with prizes in plenty of categories,"

according to festival organizer Richard Boriolo. The hoe-down will be a favorite with line dancers and cowboys alike. This event will also be held in the tent and draws a large mixed crowd.

Saturday night will feature Martha Wash. Wash has long been a favorite with the gay community and is expected to bring down the tent with her incredible voice.

Sunday, the Rainbow Festival will pack 20th Street between J and L with booths and games from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. for the annual gay pride fair.

The vendors will include information booths, handcrafted items, food booths as well as a very special "penny" booth being run by the River City Democratic Club. As with all Rain-

bow Festival events, the penny booth will benefit the Lambda Center and Hope House. Remember to clean the change drawer and check the couch for that missing change. Your small donations add up and will help make keep the Lambda Center open and help the Hope House AIDS hospice.

During the afternoon the long awaited wet t-shirt contest will be followed by the wet Jockey short contest. Both contests pack the tent and feature young firm bodies as well as some brave last minute entries.

Also featured at the Festival's Sunday Street Fair will be original artwork by local artists and a special on site exhibition by local art dealer Michael Xepolias featuring art by the Lite Rail artists. The art exhibition will take place in the tent and will mark the third time Xepolias has participated in this event.

Sunday evening comedienne Lois Bromfield will be doing new material as well as offering old favorites for her adoring fans.



The Festival fills 20th street with friends and family.

Remember this is a benefit for the Lambda Center and Hope House and as one of the event organizers put it, "Every

dollar raised, goes to people who need it, and we can all make a difference while we celebrate gay pride."

Thank you

I would like to thank the lesbian and gay community for the wonderful support you have shown over the years. I am retiring from my dental practice at the end of September, and am looking forward to new adventures. I will still be in town, and hope to see you around on social occasions.

Sincerely,
Art Katz DDS

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Operation Cease Fire Takes on the Issue of Violence

by Sara Myers

In a concerted effort to reduce violence in Sacramento, the Sacramento City Council and the City Police Department are joining a variety of local organizations and businesses in sponsoring Operation Cease Fire, August 23-29.

The goal of Operation Cease Fire -- to raise the issue of gun violence, initiate discussions, and highlight what is being done to prevent violence -- is being approached from a variety of angles.

A public service message campaign on RT buses is being launched, a news conference is scheduled at the Central Library where two librarians were

killed in April, and churches and synagogues plan to offer messages about reducing violence. And in what is perhaps the most publicized part of Operation Cease Fire, a gun amnesty program is scheduled.

Consider the statistics. A new handgun is produced every 20 seconds. Every two minutes, a handgun injures someone. The odds suicidal teenagers will kill themselves increase 75% when there is a gun in the home. Handguns purchased for home protection are 43 times more



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likely to kill the owner, family members or friend than they are to be fired in self defense. In 1990, 2,874 children and teenagers were murdered with guns; 1,476 committed suicide with guns; and 541 died in unintentional shootings.

In light of these facts, there are many citizens who own a gun they no longer want. The gun amnesty program provides a means for turning in firearms for disposal. Gun owners wishing to participate are instructed

to take the unloaded weapons, in a bag or a box, to the police department. Citizens may turn in a gun without offering identification, although I.D. will be required for those seeking receipts.

As a part of the gun amnesty program, the Sacramento Police Department will not cite or question people for bringing in altered or illegal weapons. However, police will investigate any gun found to have been used in a crime. If there is a

theft report on a weapon turned in through the gun amnesty program, police will attempt to return the weapon to the rightful owner.

For the first 100 guns turned in, a gun receipt may be exchanged for 2 tickets to a Sacramento Kings basketball game or a Sacramento Knights soccer game at ARCO Arena.

Asked whether he thought the program would be successful, Sacramento City

continued on page 25

Fairy Godfathers File Charges

by Kate Moore

The current board of directors of the Fairy Godfather Fund filed charges with the Sacramento police department August 2 after finding undocumented checks written to cash on the charity's account totalling more

than \$1300.

The Fairy Godfather Fund (FGF) is a nonprofit corporation that raises money to assist people with AIDS in the hospital and at home. According to current treasurer Steven Swart, "We need to get this bookkeeping all cleared up so we can get back to the business of helping people with AIDS."

The new board of directors was seated in June of this year and began to process the books from the previous board. During the period with questionable checks, (November 92 - May 93) Gerald Gipson was treasurer.

The checks in question were written to "cash" and were signed by Jerry Barnes, past president of FGF and Kirby Johansen, a past board member. According to Barnes, he has some receipts for the items purchased with cash, but he claims current board members are unwilling to, "sign for the receipts, so I refuse to turn them over."

During an interview with Barnes at the latest ISSUE office, he produced receipts that corresponded to the questionable checks that totaled approximately \$400. He stated that Gipson must have the rest. But according to Gipson, "I've gone through almost everything, and I don't think I have any."

Barnes states that the reason

he wrote the checks to cash was, "I lost my wallet and it was easier to cash the check at the bank and to buy the needed items."

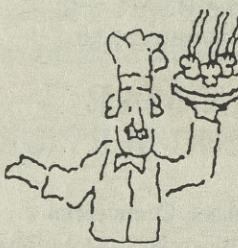
In questioning Gipson on the documentation of checks during his time as treasurer he stated, "I never really was treasurer I had no control," he said. "I'd ask them for receipts and they would say 'Oh yeah' and never get me what I needed to do the books."

The checking account required two signatures. Kirby Johansen co-signer on the questionable checks said, "I'd sign anything Jerry put in front of me. I never thought to question what it was for."

"The only way I'm going to be vindicated in this, is to have a judgement that says 'not guilty,'" said Barnes, "I'm gonna prove I'm innocent even if it means ruining the Fairy Godfather Fund."

The new board of directors, led by president Chuck Thornley, has retained accountants Whitney and Killick to take over the bookkeeping for FGF. "We have it totally under control and we are working hard to make sure the Fairy Godfather Fund accounts for every dime," says Thornley, "We will be posting our monthly statement, so if at any time a member of the community wants to, they can see where their donations are going."

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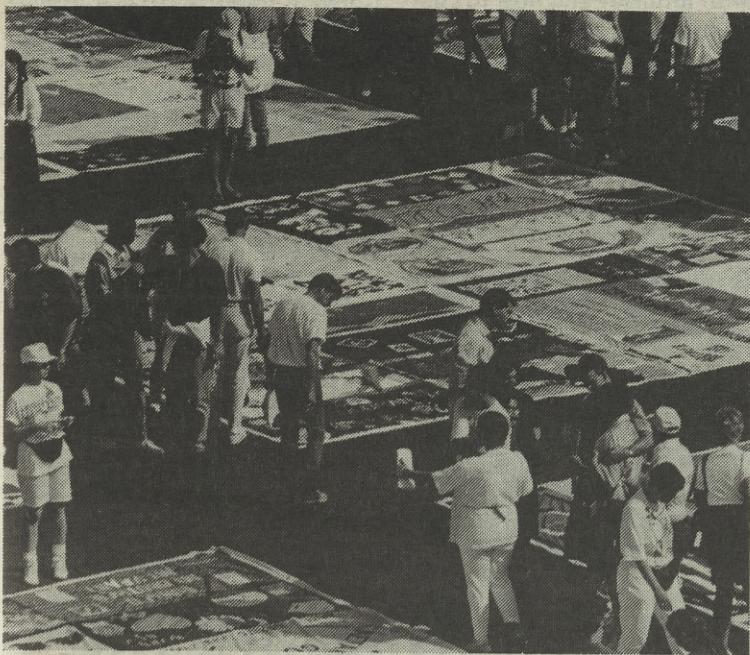
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mid-august

NAMES Project Quilt to be Displayed Locally



by Eric McIntyre

25, and 26, visitors are welcome to see these intricate pieces of work without charge.

"For people who view the Quilt, it's a moving and emotional experience that will change you forever," claims Beth Coleman, Development Director of the Sacramento AIDS Foundation.

Although admission is free, coordinators of the Sacramento display hope to raise money through donations which will then be given to the Sacramento AIDS Foundation and the Center for AIDS Research, Education and Services (CARES) in order to provide care for those living with HIV disease and AIDS.

"Sacramento needs this kind of tool to continue its fight against HIV and AIDS," says Michael Campbell, co-chair of the Sacramento display. "We have an opportunity and, indeed a responsibility to contribute towards this growing wave of AIDS awareness."

The NAMES Project began in 1987 and now includes more than 20,000 panels of the intimate and emotional work of lovers, families, and friends.

Aside from helping to elevate AIDS awareness and promote

community involvement, the Quilt has raised over one million dollars to benefit organizations which provide the much needed care and services for those living with HIV disease

**"It's a moving
and emotional
experience
that will
change you
forever..."**

and AIDS.

Like the other memorial ceremonies, the unfolding of the Quilt will be performed by volunteers as area residents read

the names of those whom they have lost to AIDS.

"By becoming involved, you are stating in a very tangible way, your commitment to our community and the local agencies that serve those living with this disease," asserts Michael Campbell.

The Sacramento display is still in need of donations from individuals and corporations; such arrangements can be made through CARES.

People interested in making their own panels or in helping with fund raising endeavors should contact Michael Campbell at CARES (916) 443-3299. Those wishing to volunteer during the display of the Quilt should contact Tim Chamberlain at the Sacramento AIDS Foundation at 448-2437.

The Names project AIDS Memorial Quilt will be proudly displayed at the Sacramento Convention Center the weekend of September 24.

From t-shirts to teddy bears, photographs to drawings, the Memorial Quilt boasts an array of personal panels that come together to form an incredible display of emotions.

This year's display is called "A Personal Journey" and will feature 2,400 6 foot by 3 foot panels that have been taken from the Sacramento area. During the days of September 24,

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**August 20 - Out-of-Town Show
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\$5 cover, Doors open at 8:30, Show a 10 p.m.**

**August 22 - Victory Brunch
at the Sierra Inn,
11 a.m. \$15**

For tickets and details call 444-0108



CASSESE

continued from page 5

thing to offer them."

In addressing the youth needs, Cassese feels that something must be done to help the runaway teens that search for sanctuary at the Center. "We hope to create a foster home pro-

gram for gay, lesbian and bisexual youth." The Lambda Center would be working with the Child Protective Service and the Foster Parent Program to assist gay/lesbian and bisexual identified youth to find placement in supportive and understanding homes.

Cassese hopes to change the

AIDS Response Program by using the successful models she saw while attending the Lesbian and Gay Health Conference last month. "The AIDS epidemic has changed and we have to change with it," she said, "we need to work with our community to take the years of AIDS education, and really teach our community to make sex safer and more enjoyable."

The proposed "new safer-sex" message will be seen in an updated condom and glove distribution program for men and women, combined with new and improved safe-sex seminars.

Seminars would include in-

formation dealing with self esteem, becoming comfortable with intimacy and how to communicate on an intimate level. "The topic of safe-sex will become less of a stigma and more of an experience to be discussed and explored for the fun that it has to offer," said Cassese.

The AIDS Response Program is the largest source of funding for the Center, with a current County grant of \$80,000. "The fear in the community is that now that a lesbian is in charge of the Center that the focus will taken away from AIDS," said Cassese, "there is going to be a very well balanced focus on the issues of AIDS, women's health,

people of color, and seniors."

The Center has more than a half a dozen outreach groups and services including, coming out groups for women, men and youth; an extensive research library; a service for reporting hate-crimes; and Cafe Lambda, a Friday evening coffee house offering an alternative lesbian/gay social space.

Besides the funding from the AIDS grant, the Lambda Center depends on donations to pay rent, staff and expenses for additional outreach programs. For more information on making a donation or to volunteer contact Lambda at (916) 442-0185.

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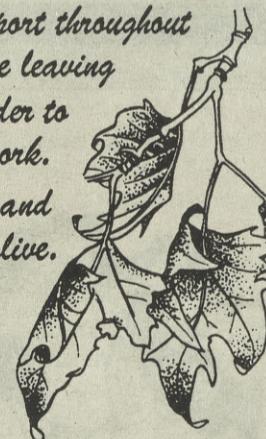
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the valiant fight against bigotry alive.
Ce Eshelman, M.F.C.C.

Thank you.

Ce



ending.

Mirage owner Valerie Marlow is trying to change that image. By installing cameras to video tape the area surrounding the bar and by hiring security to watch out for its customers, a customer "can watch their car while they have a drink and feel safe when they leave," says Marlow.

Marlow feels that the gay and lesbian community brings an upscale element to this once seedy neighborhood, "one of the neighbors came running from down the street with camera in her hand saying, she had never seen anyone come out of this bar dressed so nice and she wanted to get a picture," said Marlow.

"We are working with the neighbors to make sure they are glad the bar is here," said Marlow, "we will get a dance licence. I'm going to convince them that we will improve the neighborhood, not bring it down."

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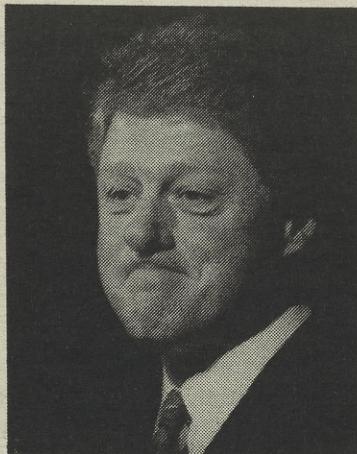
Military Ban Opponents Turn To Courts

by Michael R. Gorman

The Human Rights Campaign Fund called it a "shattering disappointment."

Gay and lesbian activists across the country protested President Clinton's compromise on the issue of gay and lesbian Americans in the military.

The so-called "Don't ask. Don't tell. Don't pursue." policy makes only minor changes to the old policy which led to hun-



RICK GERHART

President Clinton's Don't Ask, Tell, or Pursue angers gays.

dreds of millions of tax dollars being spent to seek out and discharge gay and lesbian sol-

diers in the past decade.

Under the new policy, new recruits will no longer be asked their sexual orientation, and attendance at gay events will no longer be cause for investigation. However, gay soldiers will still be investigated and discharged if they openly admit their gayness or exhibit any homo-affectional behavior at all, on or off duty. The policy, in short, requires service personnel to remain in the closet and celibate. No such restrictions exist for heterosexual soldiers.

On July 20, a large group of national leaders submitted themselves to arrest outside the White House in protest of Clinton's capitulation to Sena-

tor Sam Nunn (D. Ga.), General Colin Powell, and the supporters of the ban. Among those arrested were National Organization for Women vice-president Rosemary Dempsey, Tanya Domi of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Military Project, Los Angeles civil rights lawyer John Duran, Maurice Franklin of the National Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Forum, and Tim McFeeley, executive director of the Human Rights Campaign Fund.

Also arrested was President Clinton's friend and former advisor David Mixner, who told *the latest ISSUE*, "I feel betrayed and disappointed like *continued on page 25*

The Boycott and the Hate Roll On

by Michael R. Gorman

When Colorado's now infamous Amendment 2 passed last November outlawing legal protections for gays, lesbians and bisexuals, leaders in the gay community called for a boycott.

An organization called Boycott Colorado was born. Some commentators argue that the boycott of Colorado has wrongly divided the state. Supporters of the action counter that the divisions existed before the boycott began and are, indeed, the reason Amendment 2 passed and the boycott became necessary. Neither side, however, denies that the once pristine

image of the Rocky Mountain State has been tarnished.

The most recent group to cancel its plans to hold a convention in Colorado is the American Public Health Association which would have brought an estimated \$11 million of business to the state in 1999. The county of Santa Cruz also recently joined the boycott, forbidding any business

dealings with the state and refusing to allow any travel to Colorado at county expense.

Many gay and lesbian lead-

ers in Colorado have joined the call for an end to the boycott. But according to Terry *continued on page 25*

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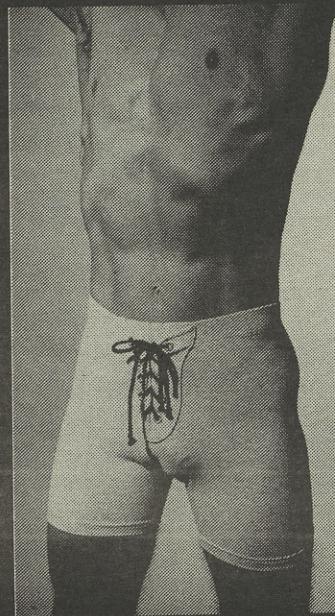


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Court

REPORTER

Bring Your Gown for the Ball

by Stan Carlsen

The Court of the Great Northwest Imperial Empire, one of Sacramento's largest and definitely most colorful charitable organizations, is gearing up to host their annual Ducal Ball.

This year's extravaganza is titled 'Red Hot Rhythm and Blues: Ducal Ball 1993'. It will be held at Turn Verein Hall, 3349 J Street on Saturday, August 21 at 7 p.m. sharp (doors open at 6). The cost is \$15, with tickets being sold only at the door.

Leading up to the ball are several events, or shows, featuring all the candidates running for the positions of Grand Duke and Duchess. Running uncontested for Duke is Paul Crouch. Candidates for Duchess are Ashley Harwood, Alta Redonda (running as Tina

Turner), and Raven.

While each of the candidates put on their own shows (see the flyers plastered on the walls of every bar in town!), the Court's reigning Duke and Duchess will also host two gala productions featuring all the candidates. The first show is on Thursday, August 19 at 8 p.m. at Faces. This program is designed for in-town guests, as the second show, on Friday the 20th at the Sierra Inn on Auburn Blvd. (10p.m.) will be for out-of-town guests from other Courts. Of course, everyone is welcome to

attend either show--they are great fun!

Reigning Grand Duke J.P. is proud of the way the contest has been run this year. "While it's been a tough race, it's been a clean campaign, unlike past years when it got a little dirty".

The decisive vote to select the winners will be held in a day-long polling process at the Lambda Center on Saturday August 14, from 11a.m. to 8 p.m. The entire community is invited to take part and to enjoy one of the most entertaining segments of our great and diverse gay and lesbian family.

Capping off the events will be a Victory Brunch on Sunday, August 22 at the Sierra Inn starting at 11 a.m. If you have never attended one of these affairs, the morning-after parties can be a real hoot!

As Grand Duke J.P. says "may the best man/woman win!"



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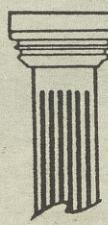
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POSITIVE

Cellular Immune Modulation and HIV Infection

by Mike DeHart

Here we are, more than a decade into this pandemic of AIDS and we are led to believe that the Berlin AIDS Conference is a prime example of "cutting edge" treatment research.

Fortunately, new theories of disease progression abound, and treatment activists and open minded researchers are seeing impressive results using non-traditional and cross-indicated drugs in the treatment of HIV infection.

One such important theory is the role of Cell Mediated Immunity in disease progression. The human immune system is a complex, self regulating mechanism. Part of the regulation of the is self-activation of appropriate branches of the immune system to respond to specific conditions within the body.

Two main branches of the

immune system are Cell Mediated Immunity (CMI) and humoral (TH2 subset) immunity. It is suggested in a recent paper by M. Clerici and Gene M. Shearer (Immunology Today, Vol. 14 No. 3, 1993) that CMI response is suppressed in HIV positive individuals.

Successful treatment of HIV infection would include agents that restore CMI response and down regulate Th2 subset response, thereby allowing the body to fight HIV without the "aid" of toxic, nucleoside analog type drugs which further suppress CMI.

Some of the most promising

agents used to restore and regulate CMI response are widely available today at a cost that anyone can afford.

One such drug is levamisole. Levamisole was developed by Janssen Pharmaceuticals, a firm that has been responsible for development of more new drugs than any other in the world (J.J. Gerhardt, Levamisole vs Immuthiol. "Forefront" 6(3). Issue #28, October 1990). It was originally used to deworm animals in veterinary medicine.

Researchers noted that the animals were not only dewormed, but "cured" themselves of viral infections and some cancers as well. After this discovery, research continued with the hope of possible human applications. It was found to stimulate cellular immunity and to restore T4 cell numbers.

The FDA however, denied Janssen Pharmaceuticals a patent. Levamisole is available from the Healing Alternatives Foundation in San Francisco.

Contact Positive Alternatives (916) 446-6114 or the Healing Alternatives Foundation for more information.

Also emerging is a protocol designed to restore CMI and destroy HIV. This protocol is the combination of Injectable Acemannan and DNCB. Acemannan is proven to be an effective antiviral, when CMI immunity is restored.

Injectable Acemannan is a drug isolated from Aloe Vera and is approved for the treatment of fibrosarcoma in animals and also as a general immune stimulant in veterinary surgery.

Persons with HIV have begun using this drug in small, weekly injections in combination with topically applied DNCB with amazing results. The combination of both of these drugs currently costs less than \$40 a month.

Due to initially astounding results, Carrington Laboratories (the maker of Injectable

Acemannan) is now providing physicians with a free supply of the drug after a \$100 filing fee. Interested parties should contact: Dr. Robert Carpenter, Shotwell & Carr, Inc., 3003 LBJ Freeway, Suite 100, Dallas, TX 75234. (214) 243-1634

DNCB is currently available from the Healing Alternatives Foundation. For more information on this protocol, please contact: The Hippocratic Medical Foundation, 10529 Sheldon Road, Elk Grove, CA. 95624. (916) 682-8912, fax (916) 682-4782.

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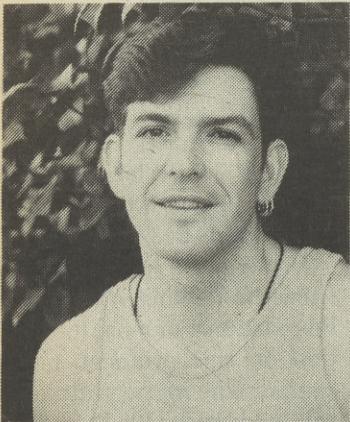


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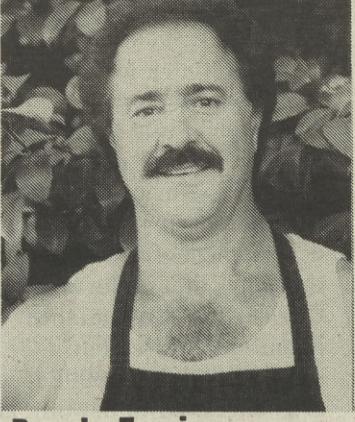
Richard Boriolo

"Both. I've always been attracted to men, but I whole-heartedly choose to be gay now. I won't hide in the closet and pretend."



Tawnya Houx

"It's genetic. When I look back on my life I see all of the crushes in high school, the feelings -- I was born who I am. Environment gave me the opportunity to find out."



Bernie Ferris

"Born gay, but the choice was still there to pretend to be what society expects you to be. It's easier and healthier to be who you really are."



Richard Bonilla

"I knew I was gay since I was a kid. I've always had a fascination with men. My mama knew I was before I told her."



Wayne Whitlow

"I was probably born gay. I always liked girls, but I noticed a guy's butt in jeans."

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Nature vs. Nurture - Genetics and Sexuality

by Samir Desai and Stacy Selmants

The debate on "heredity vs. environment" has been going on for years -- what does make people gay?

Dr. Dean Hamer, a geneticist for the National Cancer Institute, and his colleagues did a study on 40 pairs of homosexual brothers, and claim that they have found an area on the long arm of the X chromosome (inherited from mother) which might contain the so called "GAY gene." (*SCIENCE*, 16 July 1993).

To study this, Hamer first took 76 gay men and traced their pedigrees, determining which other members of each family were homosexual. He found 13.5% of the gay men's brothers to be gay -- a much higher percentage as compared to the general population of 2-10 percent. While doing this Hamer also found something new.

"When we collected the family histories," Hamer says, "we saw more gay relatives on the maternal side than the paternal side." Meaning, Hamer found homosexuality to be more common among maternal uncles and maternal cousins who were sons of aunts of the gay men, than among males in the general population. This implied that if there were a gene or a trait in at least some gay men, then it was passed through a female member of the family and obviously narrowed the search for the researchers to the X chromosome, since it is only inherited from the mother.

Hamer then studied 40 pairs of gay brothers, of which 33 pairs shared a set of 5 markers located near the end of the long arm of the X chromosome called Xq28. Hamer says "It's unlikely that the linkage between the markers and the homosexuality trait was due to a chance."

This linkage has a 99.5% certainty that there is a gene or a set of genes in this region of the X chromosome, that predisposes a male to become a homosexual.

In an interview with *the latest ISSUE*, George Theodoris (A Ph.D. candidate in Genetics at the U.C. Davis Dept. of Genetics) said. "The main finding linked to the X chromosome is very interesting, but this article's results are overstated, since I think homosexuality is a

combination of factors such as family, cultural and environmental influences and certainly genetics." Furthermore he said, "What this study does say is that in the families that they looked at, genetics did indeed play a role -- rather it was just another data that suggested that biological factors play roles in determining a person's orientation."

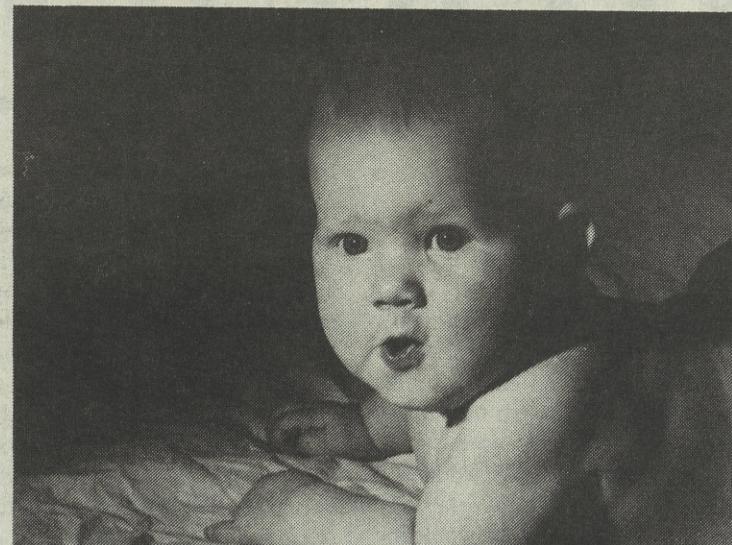
But, Theodoris said that the validity of this study is very good, because in a different study done on gay men's brains, researchers found a significant difference between gay men's brains and straight men's brains, which was a physiological difference. But this study unveils a genetic difference; thus a combination of physiological and genetic differences sug-

"It's unlikely that the linkage between the markers and the homosexuality trait was due to a chance."

gests a strong validity of men being predisposed to homosexuality.

Hamer's study is yet another example of scientists' recent efforts to explain and to prove that homosexuality is an innate, predetermined part of individual identity -- much like being left-handed. An earlier study, by J. Michael Bailey of Northwestern University and Richard C. Pillard of Boston University, published in 1991, sought to establish genetic linkages with sexuality in brothers.

In that study, more than 160 gay men were compared to their identical and their fraternal twin brothers, as well as to adopted brothers who did not share a genetic history. The researchers found the strongest correlation in the cases of identical twins, where 52 percent of 56 identical twin brothers were both gay. Of the 54 fraternal twins who participated in the study, (where the brothers had similar but not identical genetic identities) 22 percent were both gay. In the case of



Could sexual orientation be decided before birth?

the non-genetically related, adopted brothers, only 11 percent were both gay -- which closely corresponds to the widely accepted belief that 10 percent of the general population is homosexual.

And last year, Simon LeVay, a scientist at the Salk Institute, published his controversial study which concluded that there seemed to be actual struc-

the size of the affected areas of the brain, LeVay attempted to control this assumption with a comparison of the brains of (presumed) heterosexuals who had also died of AIDS. He found that the heterosexual subjects who died of AIDS had the same size hypothalamuses as heterosexual subjects who had died of other causes.

These studies could conceivably legitimize gay and lesbian insistence that the incidence of homosexuality is natural, and rooted in biology. But conversely, the studies, especially

LeVay's, have been seen as a threat by gay and lesbian activists who fear that future parents could easily abort children who are identified in utero as being likely to become homosexual.

Mr. Theodoris says, "But there is still a lot more work to be done before they draw any solid conclusions. And I am also very concerned about the effects that these type of findings may have on prenatal tests such as: if in case they do find a gene that causes one to be gay, then people might choose to abort a fetus simply because the fetus might carry the genes. Here people could also argue about the matter of choice such as for example a person might carry the genes but chooses to be gay or straight."

Furthermore he said, "That it is very important that gays get more acceptance so in the future people would not care about their children's orientation. It is a scary thought about aborting a fetus, simply because there might be a possibility that, that fetus might grow up to be a gay individual. This then becomes an ethical issue that geneticists have to deal with, now and in future."

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ENTERTAINMENT

Silver Screen Summer '93 - Hits and Misses

by Chris Narloch

THE BEST "What's Love Got To Do With It?"

The year's best movie so far is a long-overdue tribute to the queen of rock. Angela Bassett gets Tina Turner's trademark moves down pat, from the sexy shimmy to the whiplash smile. And Laurence Fishburne, as Turner's monstrous ex-husband, Ike, provides all the menace needed to root for "T" to overcome. Rousing musical numbers offset the violent domestic scenes, and the happy ending is a triumphant, if fore-

gone, conclusion.

"In The Line of Fire"

After years of making lousy exploitation movies, Clint Eastwood redeemed himself with the magnificent horse opera "Unforgiven." He continues on the upswing with this classy political thriller, co-starring John Malkovich. Eastwood is a broken-down secret service agent on the trail of would-be presidential assassin Malkovich, seen here in a witty array of disguises. Eastwood shows some welcome vulnerability, and Malkovich makes you shudder with just his eerie voice.

"The Firm"

Big-budget version of John

Grisham's novel about evil going's-on in a Memphis law firm. Don't see it for Tom Cruise; (he's his usual dull, perpetually cute self). See it for the top-notch supporting cast -- including Gene Hackman as a super slick lawyer, Holly Hunter as the ultimate good-time gal, and Gary Busey as a doomed detective. The movie is long, but it's worth seeing if only to watch Cruise kick the shit out of Wilford Brimley.

"Sleepless in Seattle"

This looked like a retread of "When Harry Met Sally" to me. The surprise is that it's even better than that other Meg Ryan comedy. Tom Hanks is much better company than Billy Crystal, both for Ryan and for the audience. The plot, about a lonely widower who finds love with a ditzy romantic via radio talk show, is supremely sentimental. The lovers don't meet until the very end - it's like two glorious hours of foreplay.

THE WORST

"Hocus Pocus"

Disney version of "The Witches of Eastwick" - meaning no sex, no brains, and no



slow love story, in which Jackson portrays a gutter-mouth hairdresser in South Central Los Angeles. A road movie in name only -- the picture goes straight down the toilet.

"Robin Hood - Men in Tights"

Mel Brooks' movies were always stupid, but I seemed to remember them being funny too (a couple of them, like "Young Frankenstein," are classics.) This thunderous flop, which wastes talented actors like Tracey Ullman, contains the crummiest parodies and dumbest schtick of any Brooks film. It's worse than desperate - it makes t.v. look good.

"Sliver"

Sharon Stone got fucked -- by her screenwriter, her director and her cheeky co-star, William Baldwin. Baldwin's butt and Stone's breasts are the only conceivable reasons to sit through this dreadful so-called thriller, about a murderer on the loose in an exclusive high-rise apartment. Not a good career move for Ms. Stone except for the fact that she ran off with the movie's producer.

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Three Wonderful One-Named Winners

by Bill Peterson

GURU - "Jazzmatazz"

If you're tired of melting from the summer sweat, take a tip from me: to be cool, slip a tight black turtleneck over your pegged black chinos and toss on a beret at a jaunty angle -- then put on "Jazzmatazz," an "experimental fusion of hip-hop and jazz". If you hate rap, this might be the album to help expand your musical repertoire. Led by Guru, the ten tunes here feature some jazz veterans like Roy Ayers, Donald Byrd and Ronny Jordan as well as Carleen Anderson (from Young Disciples) N'Dea Davenport (Brand New Heavies), and French rapper MC Solaar.

The combination of the smooth lounge jazz with a lazy hip-hop beat and Guru's relaxed reciting makes for a very inviting listen. Close your eyes and know that you're in an intimate Parisian bistro swinging with the locals.

Strong throughout, Guru swings through the appropriately titled "Loungin," and takes us on a tour of the Brooklyn subway with Branford Marsalis on "Transit Ride."

In a few years, this album

will be seen as a landmark in the evolution of rap -- a must have for all cool cats. ****

LULU - "Independence"

The voice that brought us "To Sir with Love" is back with this album which puts her in the saturated Disco Soul Lady market. Luckily, Lady Lulu passes the test, with one hit already in the title track and several strong tunes to follow it.

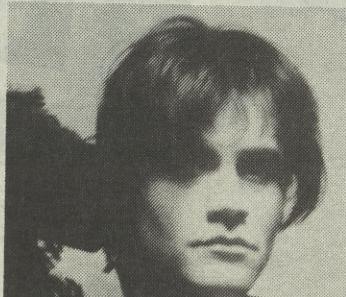
While waiting for the next Lisa Stansfield / Dina Carroll album, these politely danceable tunes fill that need for more songs about love and all its tumultuous growths.

Lulu collaborates with two of the Gibb Brothers on the unnaturally catchy "Let Me Wake Up in Your Arms" and with Bobby Womack on "I'm Back For More" and does a fine re-

make of Champaign's 1981 hit "How 'Bout Us". ***

FABULON - "All Girls Are Pretty"

With a name as lame as



Fabulon.

Fabulon, I thought, as I put the tape in, the music better be good. With a press release comparing Fab with the likes of the Rolling Stones and Prince, this guy has his work cut out for him.

Well, "All Girls are Pretty,"

delivers enough to coast through these comparisons. From the opener, "In a Mood" through other standouts like "Say Anything and "Love and Affection," Fabulon does indeed evoke comparison to the swagger of Mick Jagger and the vocal flexibility of Prince. ***

Musically, the songs mix up modern-rock guitar with dance beats and R & B flavorings, which add up to a sound quite similar to Shakespeare's Sister. One misstep is the old standby of reheating an old gem for that easy hit potential -- this time the victim is the

Association's "Cherish," which gets an unnecessary dance facelift.

With a hummability factor in the double digits, "All Girls are Pretty" is an unexpectedly strong debut, which makes me think we'll be hearing more of his dreadful name in the future! ***

Since this month's theme is One Named singers, I can't include a review of the latest from New Order. But, if I could, I would tell you that "Republic" has enough drum beats and acerbic lyrics to make for a pretty fine listen.

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13 friday

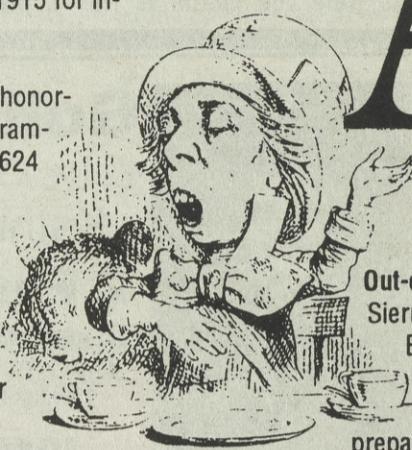
Russian River Leather Weekend - "A Year of New Energy" Call 415-364-1915 for information.

Wonderland an art exhibition honoring Lewis Carroll at Archival Framing, 1729 L Street. Call 444-9624 for information.

August 13 - 28

15 sunday

Dykes Out Together, mountain hike. Call Julie at 863-0750 for more details.



16 monday

Lesbian 12 Step Support Group 7 - 8:30 pm at Trinity Cathedral 27th & Capitol, front room of gym. Call 399-9708.

Aug. 16, 23, 30

17 tuesday

PFLAG Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays meets at 7:30 pm in room 23, Education Building, St. Marks United Methodist Church, 2391 St. Marks Way, Sacramento. Call 665-1050 for info.

18 wednesday

Artists For Children Impacted by AIDS sponsors an information and art exhibit on the West Steps of the Capitol from 11 am- 3 pm. Call 447-6209 for information.



19 thursday

CODA-support group for recovery from dysfunctional relationships. Meets at 7:30 at Lambda Center.

In-Town Show at Faces, 2000 K Street, 7:30 featuring local performers to promote the Ducal Ball.

20 friday

Midtown Merchants Sidewalk Sale. For info. call Barbetta's Beads at 443-4959.

August 20 - 22

August

Out-of-Town Show at the Sierra Inn, 2600 Auburn Blvd. \$5 cover 8:30pm featuring performers to prepare you for the Ducal Ball

21 saturday

Memorial Service for Rev. Larry Dunlap at the main sanctuary at River City MCC, 34th & Broadway at 10 am.

Two in Twenty- a five episode lesbian soap opera shows at the Beverly Garland Hotel. Contact SACWN at 451-8034 for information.

Ducal Ball at Turn Verien Hall, 3349 J Street, doors open at 6, show starts at 7pm. \$15 per person.

Home Buying Seminar at the Lambda Community Center. Learn how to get pre-approved to buy the home of your dreams. Free. For more details call 328-8898.

22 sunday

Michael Himovitz Gallery hosts an art exhibit to benefit the Sacramento AIDS Response Program from 1-4 pm, 1020 Tenth Street.

Victory Brunch, at the Sierra Inn, 11am, \$15. Celebrating the new Duke and Duchess of the Court of the Great Northwest Imperial Empire.

Dykes Out Together, fishing, hiking and other outdoor activities at Sly Park of Hwy 50. Call Kim for more details 454-2896.

23 monday

Operation Cease Fire, a public awareness project about gun violence. "It's Time to Bite the Bullet Back," a presentation by Patricia R. Salber, M.D. at the Sacramento Community Center. \$16 includes lunch. Call Don at 442-4608 for reservation.

Gun Amnesty Program, by the Sacramento City Council and Police department. For more info see story on page 8 or call 264-7006.

26 thursday

Gay Roller Skating at foothill Skate Inn, 4700 Auburn Blvd., Sacramento. 8:30 - 10:30 p.m. A benefit for SAGA. \$5. Call Tom at 635-1525 for more info.

27 friday

Tina Turner Weekend at FACES, 2000 K Street. A benefit for Hope House featuring a raffle for grand prize of front row seats to her Sept. 12 concert. Tickets available at WHAM! 2228 J Street. Drawing on Aug. 29. August 27, 28 & 29



TGIF Celebration Service at MCC Church, 7:30 pm.

28 saturday

Celebration Masquerade Ball at the River City MCC Grand Ball Room, 34th St. & Broadway, Sacramento from 7 pm to midnight.



Capital City Squares Reunion for all current and former members at 6:30 at The Temple B'nai Israel, 3600 Riverside Blvd., Sacramento. Call 916-929-8697 for information.

31 tuesday

Rave Party at FACES in the tent at 2000 K Street. Kick-off event for Rainbow Festival 1993.

1 wednesday

Second Wind performs the opening concert for the 1993 Rainbow Festival at 10 pm in the tent at FACES, 2000 K Street.

2 thursday

Randy Riggs, country western performer to perform in the tent at FACES, 2000 K Street. Part of the Rainbow Festival Weekend.

Chalk It Up To Sacramento - sidewalk art on view. Call 484-5710 for information.

El Dorado Women's Center offers volunteer training program to assist victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. Call 626-1450 for info.

A Few Good Men plays at the Chautauqua Playhouse at 8 pm. Call 489-7529 for information. Sept. 2 - Oct. 9

3 friday

Vicki Shephard performs in the tent at FACES, 2000 K Street, to benefit Rainbow Festival 1993. For tickets and information about the festival call 441-3973.

4 saturday

Martha Wash, of the Weather Girls and Black Box fame performs in the tent at FACES, 2000 K Street as feature entertainment for Rainbow Festival 1993.

Oak Park Concert Series at McClatchy Park, 33rd Street & 5th Avenue, from noon - 6 pm. Call 321-1880 for information.

5 sunday

Rainbow Festival Street Fair at 2000 K Street, Sacramento. A benefit for Hope House and the Lambda Community Center sponsored by the latest ISSUE, FACES and Budweiser. For information call 441-3973.

Comedianne Lois Bromfield in the tent at 2000 K Street 11pm. Final performer of the Rainbow Festival Weekend.

Renaissance Pleasure Faire at Black Point Forest in Navato. Call 800/52-FAIRE for information. September 5 - Oct 10

The Valley Bears get together at the Silver Spur, 2721 Broadway 3 pm to 7 pm. \$7.95. Call 456-2437 for information.

8 wednesday

"**And the Band Played On**" screening of the movie to benefit CARES begins at 7:30 pm at the Crest Theater, 1013 K Street, Sacramento.

10 friday

2nd Annual National Lesbian & Gay Journalists Association Conference in New York City. Call Douglas Knight at (212) 245-2651 for information.

11 saturday

Different Spokes Sacramento, a bicycling club, meets at the Lambda Center at 7:30 pm after McKinley park ride. All welcome.

Greater Sacramento Area Area Couples Game Night at 7 pm at St. Francis, 26th & L, Community Room. \$2 non-members. Call 422-5049 for location and club information.

12 sunday

Gay Fathers support group - call 924-

September

DADS. Meets 2nd Sunday of every month.

17 friday

Art Explosion '93, an art & entertainment festival to benefit "CCIA" Care of Children Impacted by AIDS. Sept. 17 - 18

The L/SM Round-Up - "Bound by Serenity 1993" kicks off the weekend of leather and sobriety. Call (415) 764-2990 for information. Sept. 17 - 19



18 saturday

Caregiving- The Final Stage - a workshop on how to support someone through the dying process. Call (415) 861-0877.

19 sunday

Sacramento Old City Association's Home Tour. Tour ten classic homes on Capitol Ave. For more info call Kay at 457-3793.

20 monday

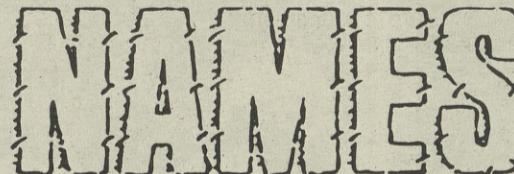
Violent Toy Exchange, by Fowler's Toys, 2504 J Street, and Choices, 2417 K Street. For more details see story on page 8 or call 448-6742.

24 friday

The Names Project Quilt on display at the Sacramento Community Center. This display is titled "A Personal Journey," and will include 2400 panels. Sept. 24, 25 & 26

25 saturday

Greater Sacramento Area Couples Movie Night at 7 pm. \$2 nonmembers. Call 422-5049.



Sacramento Frontrunners, meets at McKinley Park, behind tennis courts

Sacramento Men's Chorus presents "Hidden Legacies" a concert performed by the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus and featuring music performed by the Sacramento Men's Chorus. Performance begins at 8 pm at the Crest Theater. Call 444-5213.

26 sunday

Chico Freedom Fest 93, "Enterprising Freedom." 545 Vallombrosa Ave in Chico. 11

am - 6 pm. For booth info call (916) 893-3336

MONDAYS

Survivors of Sexual Abuse women's group from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. every other Monday, also Tuesday nights. Call 783-0563 for information.

Twin Spirits Veterans meets 3rd Monday of the month. Call 383-0940 for information.

Lesbian and Gay Town Council, 2nd Monday of each month. Call 448-0422 for info.

TUESDAYS

Sacramento Gay & Lesbian Film Festival organizing committee meets at the Lambda Center at 5:30. Call Allen at 482-6397 for information.

Being Gay Today, 10 p.m. on cable 18. An hour of lesbian and gay programming.

Heart to Heart, a HIV+ support group that is for gay and bi-men to talk about common emotions. 6:30 - 8 p.m. 920 20th Street. Call 448-2437 for info.

Sacramento Leather Association, monthly meeting at the Wreck Room, 7 p.m. First Tuesday of each month. For info. call 863-3398.

WEDNESDAYS

HAWAII Sacramento Frontrunners, meets at McKinley Park, behind tennis courts

THURSDAYS

HIV/AIDS Family Support Group on the first and third Thursdays at the Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer, 4641 Marconi Ave. For information call 483-5691.

CODA is a fellowship of gay men + lesbian women recovering from co-dependent relationships. Meets 7:30 p.m. Every Thursday at Lambda Community Center, 1931 L Street.

Rainbow Real Estate Professionals meets on the first Thursday of each month at 11:30 a.m. at the Hungry Hunter, 450 Bercut Drive, Sacramento. For information call 921-6642.

FRIDAYS

Youth Group at Lambda Community Center at 5:45 p.m. for gay, lesbian, and bi youth under age 21. Call Christopher at 442-0185 for information.

SATURDAYS

FrontRunners, a lesbian and gay running club. Meet at 9 am at Guy West Bridge opposite Sac State on University Ave side. Call Jim at 387-8275.

Different Spokes Sacramento, a lesbian and gay bicycling club meets at 8 am at McKinley Park at the Northeast end by the Tennis Courts.

SUNDAYS

Dignity/Sacramento meets at 6 pm on the 2nd Sunday of the month. Call 443-8084 for information.

Women of Color Support Group, every Sunday, 7:15 - 9 p.m. Lambda Center 1931 L Street. Call 442-0185 for info.

Plan-It In Advance

To list your events in the Daily Plan-it, send a brief description of the event along with any graphic images you may have before the 5th of each month to: **the latest ISSUE**

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that

GALLERY GUIDE!

Not All Galleries are On Vacation in August

by D. Oldham

August has traditionally been a month for galleries to vacation. This year, many local galleries are using this month to present benefit exhibitions and to preview the upcoming season.

The Judith Weintraub Gallery will remain open this August and will feature a revolving exhibition of favorite gallery artists as well as introducing new talent. The exhibition will change each week and feature work by some of Sacramento's top artists: Ann Harold Taylor, Craig Smith, and Judy Nunes, as well as offering a peek at upcoming artists seeking representation by this established gallery. The gallery will close August 29 through August 6 and will reopen for

the season with exciting new work by Stanford graduate Brenda Loiue.

Weintraub is working in conjunction with The Michael Himovitz Gallery to present a special art auction to benefit the AIDS Response Program. The auction titled "Have I Got A Dealer For You," will feature artwork done by local art dealers, art columnists and other non-artists that work in the Sacramento art community.

The event takes place on Sunday, August 22 and should pro-

vide an excellent opportunity to see why art dealers sell art instead of make art. The Michael Himovitz Gallery will be open limited hours in August (call the gallery for dates and times), and will reopen in September with an exhibition by Anne Gregory -- known primarily for her large format watercolors. She will be exhibiting with ceramist Michael Hough.

Also busy during August is the Matrix Gallery on I Street. Posing the question "When does craft become art?" the gallery seeks to resolve this in an exhibition called "Matrix Fine Crafts Show."

Curated by two Northern California artists, Victoria Z. Rivers and Arthur Gonzales, this exhibition includes work from all over the United States in a variety of media. Awards include the categories of "Best of Show," awarded to Kerry Wooten of Georgia for her untitled ceramic sculpture and Doris Finch of California who took the first place award in the 2-dimensional category. This exhibition features work from over 30 artists and will be on exhibit at the gallery through September 9.

Presenting art in a new venue will be local art gallery owner

Michael Xepoleas, known for his innovative exhibits at his Lite Rail Gallery on 12th Street. This art dealer will be representing new talents at the Rainbow Festival as well as running his regular exhibition featuring the works of Dolly Johnson and Leslie Philpott. Lite Rail Gallery will be open during August and continues its current exhibition through September 10.

Remember that many of the local galleries will alter their hours for August, so check the listing for exhibition dates and times, and spend a lazy summer afternoon supporting Sacramento's art community.

Galleries A Go-Go

- **Archival Framing**, 1729 L Street, (916) 444-9624.
- "Wonderland" A group exhibition honoring the works of Lewis Carroll. Through August 28. Paintings and Drawings by Corey Okada. September 1 through October 1. Reception: Saturday September 11, 7-9 p.m.
- **Big Art**, 1928 L Street, (916) 446-2740.
- "Introductions '93" Group exhibition through September 9 Call the gallery for times.
- **Himovitz Gallery**, 1020 10th Street, 448-8723.
- "Have I Got A Dealer For You," AIDS Benefit Auction Sunday August 22. New work by Anne Gregory and Ceramics by Michael Hough September 8 through October 2. Reception Saturday September 11, 6-9 p.m.

Judith Weintraub Gallery, 1723 J Street, 442-3360. Group Exhibition through August 29. New work by Brenda Loiue, September 6 through October. Reception Saturday September 11, 5-8 p.m.

Lite Rail Gallery, 912 12th Street, 441-1013.

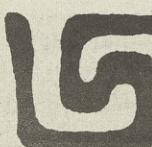
Work by Dolly Johnson and Leslie Philpott through September 10. Next opening reception: Saturday September 11.

"Chalk It Up to Sacramento" 15th and P Streets in Fremont Park, 484-5710. Local artists will be doing sidewalk paintings to benefit children's art activities. Live music, vendors and a beer garden will also be on-site. The festival runs Labor Day weekend from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and the artwork will remain on the sidewalk through the end of September.

Matrix Gallery, 1725 I Street, 441-4818.

"Matrix Fine Crafts Show" through September 9. Call the gallery for upcoming exhibitions.

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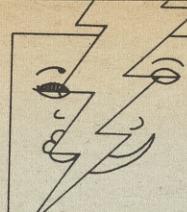
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OFF THE EDGE

Laid Off? Think of it as a Surprise Vacation

by Stacy Selmant

Recently, due to a "revenue shortage," 40 percent of the staff in my office were put on a kind of permanent furlough. We were laid off. Let go. Canned. Terminated. But some of us, wise in the ways of creative communication, like to think of it, instead, as just a surprise vacation.

It was not such a surprise, and in the end I was glad to go. I was only using about .009% of my brain there, though the job was useful in the bill-paying department.

I was so eerily good-natured about it that my co-workers began to fret about a possibly undiagnosed psychosis during my last waning days of employment, when most of my waking thoughts centered upon devising clever ways to utilize my remaining sick leave, (HINT: a bad case of beri-beri is both innovative and fresh).

These co-workers later confided their genuine concerns

that I might arrive one day with a semi-automatic weapon and announce that I had found a new career with the U.S. Postal Service, before terminating them all, in a festive spray of gunfire. A confession: the thought HAD occurred to me. But it passed.

(Some of you may be confused because you think working for This Very Paper IS my job. No, dear readers, the Latest ISSUE is not a job, but an adventure. Kate keeps me around partly because she enjoys my hate mail so very, very much. Some of it even has verbs! And punctuation! And

we're getting to really know the guys on the Sacramento Bomb Deployment detail!)

But I digress. So what's it like, being among the Nouveau Unemployed? To answer that question, Off the Edge presents an episode of:

"How Was Your Day Dear?"

7 a.m. Time to awaken my lovely (and employed) wife, Suzanne. (In the immortal words of the Pet Shop Boys, "I love you; you pay my rent.") Brew caffeine and administer as quickly as possible. Begin to read the paper, checking to see that President Clinton didn't renege on any OTHER promises in the past 24 hours. So far, so good.

7:13 a.m. Feign interest in

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my lovely (and employed) wife's breathless retelling of the previous night's dreams, including the one about the long, slow train going into the tunnel. With the use of some impromptu Freudian analysis, we conclude that I MUST begin jumping my lovely (and employed) wife's bones more often. Perhaps immediately.

8:27 a.m. My lovely (and employed) wife has gone off to make more money for the Sac-

ramento BEE, with a song in her heart and a residual tingling in her thighs. It's a hard job, this sex toy thing, but somebody's got to do it.

8:49 a.m. With a twinge of deadline-imposed guilt, I contemplate writing this column, but realize that Kate hasn't yet called to hysterically inquire where it is, so I relax and just let the feeling pass.

9 a.m. I turn on the t.v. to my *continued on page 24*

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RUMOR HAS IT

Okay, we know you are wondering who this month's cover model is.

The beautiful baby is Cady Laurel Lockrem-West, daughter of Pam and Barb Lockrem-West of Wham. This is Cady's second appearance on our front page. The first time in December, she just hadn't been born yet, as her parents modeled for the cover story on gay families.

Along with the summer weather, an inside struggle at the Twin Spirits Veterans Association is heating up daily. Apparently Vicki Vaughan, First Officer of the gay veteran's group, understood TSVA to be the sole sponsor of the annual tribute to lesbian and gay veterans, and she wants to take primary responsibility for the ceremony. Lynn Strawbridge, a founder of TSVA and orga-

nizer of the tribute since its inception several years ago, wants to remain involved in organizing this year's ceremony. Lynn reports that the tribute is to be presented by the Sacramento Lesbian and Gay Town Council and co-sponsored by TSVA and *the latest ISSUE*. As the dispute over organizing the ceremony grows, threats of expulsion from the TSVA are being brandished. Hopefully the importance of the annual celebration of gay and lesbian veterans will not be lost among the infighting.

So did you catch the article in the *Sacramento Bee* about our city's gay papers? Yes, the Bee knows we exist and gave us a rather nice write up, calling *the latest ISSUE* the most successful gay paper in town.

Summer fun is still ahead with

Labor Day Weekend's Rainbow Festival. The annual event -- a weekend of entertainment, dancing, and a street fair held at 20th and K -- is sponsored this year by Faces, Budweiser, and *the latest ISSUE*. Martha Wash, the voice behind the group Black Box, will be the featured performer. Randy of Barefoot Wines, a "family" business will be donating 10 cases of wine to the Rainbow Festival. Proceeds from all Rainbow Festival events will benefit the Lambda Community Center and Hope House.

Also ahead is the Duke and Duchess Ball, to be held August 21 at Turn Verein Hall. The event is an annual fashion fest, so get out your feathers boa and plan to attend.

Good news on the job front: Jerry Love has been rehired by the Sacramento AIDS Foun-

dation. Jerry's position as Outreach Coordinator was recently eliminated due to funding cuts, but when new money came in he was asked to return.

Kurt Fowler has formally announced his divorce. He is now officially single and will no longer answer questions about Paul. So please, don't ask.

Visions Window Coverings has purchased a building on 2nd Avenue to house their soon to open retail showroom. Is Oak Park becoming Sacramento's new gay mecca?

D. Oldham, that gallery gal, is turning 30. And they said she'd never grow up! Music dude and smooth dresser, Bill Peterson is celebrating a late summer birthday, as well.

A special screening of the movie "And the Band Played On," based on Randy Shilt's book will benefit the Center

for AIDS Research, Education and Services on Wednesday, September 8. The film will begin at 7:30 at the Crest Theater and will be preceded by a reception at the Central Library Galleria. Tickets to the fundraiser are \$25 and can be purchased at CARES or at Commerce Security Bank.

And speaking of movies, more information on Barbra Streisand's new project is in. The two hour movie, based on the story of Margaret Cammermeyer will star Glenn Close. Cammermeyer had a distinguished military career cut short when she acknowledged during a security clearance meeting that she was a lesbian. Streisand noted, "This is a story that throws light on one of the most important issues of our time." The movie will air on NBC during the 1993-94 season.

The River City Volleyball Club, Sacramento's gay and lesbian volleyball association, will be hosting the 7th annual Sacramento Volleyball Festival during the Labor Day weekend at CSUS. The tournament is expected to draw over 20 gay teams from the western U.S. and Canada. Anyone interested in hosting traveling players may contact David Lyons at 448-5965 or Ralph Hernandez at

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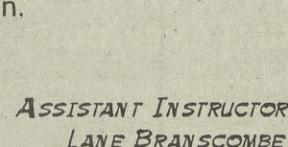
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The Faces women's softball team will be traveling to the state tournament in Fremont, August 13 and 14. Team manager Patti Pardue says the Faces team will be one of over 32 teams participating in the playoffs.



Mark Sieker, 1st runner up, Jim Gawronski, owner of the Wreck Room, and Tigger, Mr. Wreck Room 1993.

The Sacramento Heatwaves, a gay and lesbian swim team, is expanding. The team is seeking new members of all ages and levels. Interested swimmers may contact Kerry at 455-2433 or Harry at 455-7628.

The Sacramento Men's Chorus has announced that it will be hosting the San Francisco Men's Chorus the weekend of September 24. A joint performance is planned.

Also, The Names Project quilt will be on display at the Sacramento Community Center on September 24. If you have never had an opportunity to see the quilt, do plan to go. It is a powerful and personal reminder of the people we have lost to AIDS.

For their annual fundraising effort, Lambda Letters is selling 1994 Entertainment books. Bargain seekers can purchase a book for only \$40 by calling 965-6851.

The Sacramento Leather Association recently sponsored Leatherfest weekend, a three-day celebration of the leather/SM lifestyle. Tigger was elected Mr. Wreck Room 1993 in a contest that was one of the weekend's many activities.

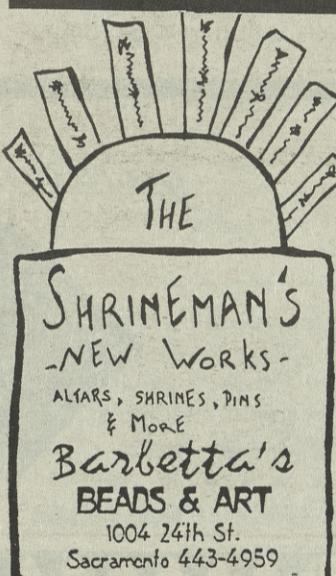
Coming up on the local leather calendar is the competition to be Sacramento's representative to the Mr/Ms Northern California Cheeks and Chaps contest. The local contest will be at the Wreck Room Sept. 4, 9:30 p.m. The Northern California

Contest is Sept. 18 in San Francisco. If you look good in chaps, and don't mind showing a little bun, call 452-0962 and get in the contest.

Rumor has it Bill Gooch may return to the fantasy stage in the near future. It seems the recent Leather Fest fantasies

Festival is being planned for October 8th and 9th. The festival, a project of Delta Lambda Phi National Fraternity and The Gay & Lesbian Alliance of Sacramento is seeking donors to cover initial deposits and advertising costs. The event is a fundraiser which last year netted \$3,000 for CARES and The Lambda Community Fund. Those interested may contact Allen Cole at 482-6397.

And finally, did you hear that Joseph's Town & Country is closing? The business, which apparently could not survive its location on seamy Auburn Boulevard, will close September 5. Will the bar re-open in a new location? Stay tuned



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OFF THE EDGE

continued from page 21

new video obsession, the Comedy Channel's *Women Aloud*, a talk show/group therapy session hosted by the sexy, funny and ultimately strange Mo Gaffney. Today's topic is something I am, of course, known for: political cor-

rectness. A lame male comic sneers, "Can I call you 'broads'?" Mo responds, deadpan, "Only if we can call you 'dickhead'." I think the morning's tone has been set.

10:30 a.m. I begin my day's housewife chores, including the chemical annihilation of the roving bands of killer snails who specialize in drive-by nibbling

of all the vegetables in my garden. (I love Dow Chemical. Am I worried that my zucchini may have the half-life of plutonium? Nope. I drank lots of Aerojet flavored water as a child; it just doesn't matter.) One of the primary strategies of Nouveau Unemployment is: Grow Your Own Food. While the climate in Sacramento is not ideally suited for crops such as, say, wheat, there are other options. Here at the Cabana, we're planning on sowing a big ol' crop of rice in the wading pool, after the heat has peaked.

12:38 p.m. I finish cleaning, including admiring the new no-smudge look of the poster on our bathroom door that my interior design impaired (but employed) wife, in a moment of tequila whimsy, recently lifted from The Mirage's bathroom. It reads: "Drug or Sex Action Prohibited and Will be Reported. State Law." Adds a kind of homey Dorothea Puente touch, we think.

1:24 p.m. The casting director calls with new suggestions

for the casting of my mini-series tribute to the artistically mediocre, "House of Floss". I nix any thoughts of having either Ricky Schroeder OR Drew Barrymore in drag play the lead, and irritably suggest that she should keep looking. She sniffs, and responds, "You just don't KNOW mediocrity when you see it." Unfortunately, I do. Luckily we don't believe in running it in OUR paper.

2:00 p.m. From within the confines of the wading pool, with my cordless phone I call one of the people still employed at my old office. Kurt sounds bored, and enviously begs me to please stop splashing. I then take him upstairs, via phone, and cruelly make him listen to the whirring sound of margaritas in the blender for awhile. Yep. Surf's up and the livin' is easy. I tell him I have to go. I'm losing the sun.

3:30 p.m. The mail arrives, along with a thank you note from a lobbyist for whom I did a lucrative two-day subcontracting gig. She wants further help,

and is seemingly willing to pay for it. I weigh my options; can I effectively negotiate on behalf of clients from the pool?

4:30 p.m. I begin dinner preparations for my lovely (and employed) wife. In response to today's mail, announcing the likelihood of continued well-paying free-lance assignments, I pass on the Spam Flambe I was planning and defrost some steaks I've been hoarding. Damn. Dionne Warwick's Psychic Line WAS right. The economy WILL start picking up. Looks like I may not have to leave the pool until it's time to sow that winter rice...

Fellow Job Seeker Update:

On a hopeful note, the U.S. Department of Labor recently announced (in an effort to avert thousands of suicides in the aerospace industry) that the average worker would have four separate careers, not jobs, over the course of his/her life. So you bartenders and state workers out there, take heed. It's NEVER too late to take up neurosurgery.

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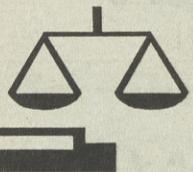
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MILITARY

continued from page 11

everyone else, but not deterred. He clearly has supported a horrendous and regressive policy." Mixner said the president is aware of his feelings but refuses to comment on them.

Protests were held in various other cities around the country. Activists in San Francisco were arrested at the Federal Office Building.

In a statement issued after the president's announcement, Congressman Gerry Studds wrote of the new policy, "It continues to subject lesbians and gay men to investigation and separation from the military merely for speaking privately about their sexual orientation or engaging in private consensual relationships. This perpetuates a situation in which gay men and lesbians are denied the security, dignity and openness in their private lives which their comrades-in-arms take for granted. I believe, as I wrote to the President on Friday, that such a policy is insupportable."

Asked what the next move will be in the fight to end the ban, Lynn Strawbridge, Sacramento lesbian activist and founder of the Twin Spirits Veterans Association, said, "I am disappointed that the presi-

dent allowed politics to overcome his principles, but I am appreciative that he made it an issue. It won't go away now. I hope that it will be settled in the courts now."

Miriam Ben-Shalom, founder of the Campaign For Military Service, agreed that the courts are the gay community's best bet at this point. Several lawsuits against the ban are pending nationwide, including those of Keith Meinhold (Navy), Colonel Cammeyer (Coast Guard), Joseph Steffan (Navy), Andy Holmes (Army), and a group of Army soldiers listed in a class action lawsuit filed by the ACLU and the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund.

The Campaign For Military Service in the meantime is disbanding. According to Ben-Shalom, the organization was formed as a clearinghouse for the lobbying and media efforts of several national gay rights groups. It was not intended to be an organization which would last beyond the president's decision. The Human Rights Campaign Fund, The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force and the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund will continue to fight discrimination in the military.

Some conservatives in Congress, including Sam Nunn (D-

Ga.) have expressed their intention to introduce bills which will codify the new compromise into the law, making it beyond the reach of any further executive order from the President. Rep. Ron Dellums (D-Calif.) intends to introduce a motion in the Armed Services committee asking for a total end to the ban, but he expects little support. Other legislators have discussed introduction of a bill to repeal the ban altogether. Both the Senate and the House are holding hearings on the ban in connection with the 1994 Defense Department Budget.

The issue is not dead by any means. As Congressman Studds wrote, "Gay people are everywhere -- and those who care about them -- will feel anger and pain at the President's inability to fulfill his pledge. Nevertheless, it is important at such times to remember what the struggle has been all about. This is the last great unfinished chapter in the long history of civil rights in this country. We will lose some battles, as we have today, but we must never doubt our ultimate victory in the struggle for justice... we will continue to fight on -- in Congress and in the courts -- until the final chapter has been written and all Americans are truly free."

COLORADO

continued from page 11

Schleider, executive director of Boycott Colorado, those leaders are thinking more of the gay tourist dollars than the welfare of the community and of the nation. "The mainstream gay leadership in Colorado is terrified of rocking the boat. That's why Amendment 2 passed; they played nice. They're in the pocket of the governor's office and the business community. The average queer in Colorado supports this. But these people don't have the access to the media," she told the latest ISSUE. "But the louder the business and government people complain the more we know the boycott is working. It's getting harder and harder. That means it's more and more effective."

Although tourists continue to flock to Colorado in record numbers, convention business is noticeably down. The Colorado Convention Center in Denver has remained virtually empty according to Fred Brown, political editor of the *Denver Post*.

Hundreds of groups and individuals have either signed on in official support of the boycott or have canceled meetings or appearances in the state.

"This boycott is the only thing that keeps Amendment 2 in the news and makes it everyone's problem, not just gays and lesbians," said Schleider. "It has to be stopped here. There are already similar laws pending in other states. This is a national issue. We have to keep the momentum."

Since the passage of Amendment 2, statistics have shown a rise in hate crimes against gays and lesbians, including assaults, illegal firings, and evictions. The suicide rate is also up according to Boycott Colorado.

Said Schleider, "We have a repeal movement and hopefully it will lead to our civil rights being guaranteed. Repeal, replace: that has been our stand from the beginning. Until we have pro-active legislation, it will happen over and over again."

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VIOLENCE

continued from page 8

Councilmember Darrell Steinberg pointed out that the first step to reducing violence is increasing public awareness of its effects and of positive alternatives. "It's important that we discuss violence every day, not just in the wake of tragedy," he said. "We need to reflect on why we have such a violent culture and what we can do to reduce that." Although some critics have expressed skepticism about the number of weapons that will be turned in, Steinberg expressed confidence in the program he spearheaded. "If even one gun we collect was going to be used to hurt or kill someone, all the effort that has gone into this program will be worthwhile."

In a similar drive aimed at children, two local retail stores are sponsoring a Violent Toy Truce, September 20-26. Fowler's Toys, which carries no violent toys, and Choices, a politically correct gift shop, are urging kids to turn in their play guns and other violent toys.

According to Diane Fowler, owner of Fowler's Toys, "Children learn through play, and toys are an important part of

their development." Denise Evangelista, Choices owner, adds "Adults and children need to take a look at the type of toys they play with. Are those toys teaching violent behavior or teaching cooperative ways to negotiate respectfully and to learn to live in peace?"

The toys that are collected through the Violent Toy Truce will be given to a variety of

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SIN STREET?

continued from page 5

cording to the S. News article) and it was, well, dead. It remained so throughout the evening.

At about 9:45 I met up with a blonde hustler who identified himself as Tom and agreed to talk. Tom is 32 and only returned to Sacramento recently after quitting a job with a carnival. He was raised by "dope fiend parents" and developed a drug and alcohol problem at an early age. He said that given a choice, he would probably be doing exactly what he is doing. "I don't know what it'd be like to have a lot of money. I get bored with a 9 to 5 job." After a while, Tom admitted that he rarely gets any "action" in the area.

Back out on the street I met up with several of the Lavender Angels who were patrolling the area. For the rest of the evening I did not make it two blocks without seeing at least one of the three pairs of patrolling angels. I asked them about the crime epidemic. Kristin Sylvia said, "It's been quiet for a long time. Someone egged my car about two years ago." Her patrol partner Kiva added, "We haven't had any violent outbreaks since the Lavender Angels have been here." They admit to occasionally seeing a discreet drug deal or a

hustler negotiating with a john, but they leave those issues to the city police.

After leaving the angels, I struck up a conversation with a man who admitted to having hustled years ago when he was 23. He hustled to support a drug and alcohol problem, encouraged by friends who told him he

ender Angels. "Other than a little drinking in the parking lot across the way and occasional pot, no, there's not much crime. And there's no fights here. Everybody's cool," said Gansereit. "It's the straight people driving by and talking shit that's the problem," added Goodenough, "People here are

down here. They laughed at it."

"If this is sin street, society has it made," concluded Gansereit.

At two in the morning the bars let out and conversations continued on the sidewalks. By three most of the crowds had dispersed without incident. The ignored hustlers leaned against

cron Avenue. Yet the gay community is an easy mark for sensationalism.

To many straight folks, a simple description of same sex couples strolling the street is enough to set the imagination anticipating the smell of sulfur and flames from the sewer grates.

Almost all gatherings of gay and lesbian people are peaceful to the point of being miraculous. Eyes that see otherwise are clouded by homophobia.

It is past time we stopped acquiescing to portraits of us by myopic eyes and prejudging pens. I challenge anyone to find three straight bars in as close proximity as The Western, The Mercantile and Faces that have as much traffic and as broad a clientele with as few problems with crime and violence. We are owed an apology.

"I'm straight and I'd rather party here."

could exchange sex for free drugs and drinks. "The men who picked me up were from outside the community: Citrus Heights, Fair Oaks, Elk Grove, Rancho Cordova. Sometimes the cabbies would refer me to people."

I met two other hustlers later. Both were at least in their mid-twenties, both straight and hustling for drugs, and by three in the morning neither had found a trick.

Scott Gansereit and Albert Goodenough, two non-gay security guards from an outside security company hired by Terry Sidie to supplement his own security staff at Faces, both claimed that they felt safer in Lavender Heights than at any other assignment they had ever had.

They pointed out the streetlights installed by Faces owner Sidie, the mellow attitude of the gay and lesbian revellers, the presence of the Lavender Angels.

more responsible than what I see at straight bars. Intoxicated people here get a cab or slip into their cars to sleep. I'm straight and I'd rather party here."

Gansereit pointed to the teenagers gathered in a parking lot across the street and then to the men and women walking between the bars. "If these were straight bars, there'd be a fight on every corner. There's so much harmony here. Everybody looking out for everybody else. Vincent's death (Vincent Blade who was murdered in a gay bashing incident three years ago) was the past. It's not like that now."

Dennis Yorks, a security guard for Faces joined us. He complained about having been misquoted by both the Sacramento Bee and The Suttertown News. "You used to see a prostitution and dope problem before the PD cleaned things up and Terry installed the lights and extra security. I've never seen a bar with this much security. I gave that other article to the police officers who work

a wall and talked quietly. Sin Street emptied with a whisper.

Unwilling to take the city police opinion second-hand, I called the Sacramento City Police Department. One officer who asked not to be identified called the recent coverage of the Lavender Heights area in the straight press, "a bit histrionic."

Deputy Chief Ledbetter, the police liaison to the gay and lesbian community said he hears little about crime in the area of Twentieth and K streets. Public Information Officer Michael Heenan, when asked if Lavender Heights had become a high crime area said, "Not at all. Hell no, by no definition is it one of the worst areas of the city. I think it's such a quiet area that when something does happen, people really notice."

If a street in Sacramento should be dubbed "Sin Street," there are many more worthy candidates than 20th between J and M: Del Paso Boulevard, Stockton Boulevard, Broadway, or, depending on your definition of sin, Capital Mall or Mi-

RECOVERY

continued from page 6

tions Johnson discovered what he described as the "incredible homophobia" and "the institutionalized heterosexism of most drug treatment programs." The problem was not so much with program staff, he noted, but mostly with hostile clientele. "This makes it extremely difficult to come out in a group. A lot of the reason people come to drink is over problems over their sexuality."

Johnson was able to convince other members of the board on the need for the program, and later persuaded the Board of the Lambda Community Center to sponsor the program. In February of 1993, the County of Sacramento designated a block of money for the starting of the program.

In June, they began seeking clients and holding meetings, with Michael Wycuff as the program administrator and therapist, and Phil Fisher as the assistant administrator and case manager (Fisher is also a certified AIDS counselor, and

will be working with intravenous drug users). Patrick McIver is clinical director, and Sharon Boline is the primary outpatient therapist. The center is both Medicare and Medical approved. "Simply because it's possible to get this at low cost does not mean it's not first class. It is first class, said Wycuff.

Treatment nights are Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 6 to 9pm; every Wednesday is Family night. The program takes 12 weeks or 36 sessions to complete.

"It's been our baby for a long time," said Fisher. "It was like God came down and said, 'Here. Do it.' Wycuff emphasized that it took vigorous effort to start the program and keep it going—they have paid all of the bills themselves for the last four months—and also that through it all, their relationship has weathered the struggles and hard time.

"Phillip and I have 22 years together," said Wycuff. "We've come from the depths of hell. We managed to stick together—and we have a good life."

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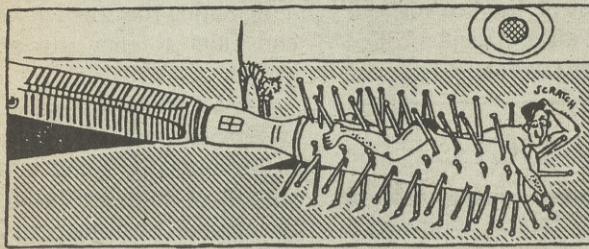
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the latest ISSUE 27

THE MOSTLY UNFABULOUS SOCIAL LIFE OF ETHAN GREEN...

... BY Eric Orner ©'93.

ASTONISHINGLY, YOU AWOKE TO FIND YOURSELF CAUGHT UP IN THE BRISTLES OF A MAMMOTH HAIRBRUSH...



AS FOR THE GQS-THEMSELVES, WELL, TWO OF THEM WERE IN THE LIVING ROOM, PRACTICING POSTURE ...



IT MADE NO SENSE AT ALL, REALLY NOT 1 IOTA... BUT THE IMPLICATION WAS CLEAR, YOU WERE STRANDED... STRANDED IN THE



LAND OF THE GIANT QUEENS.

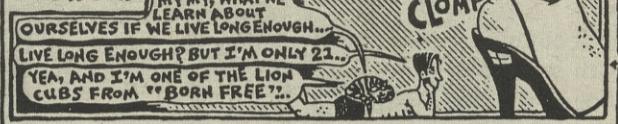
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ATHIRD CRITIQUED FROM THE SIDELINES AS SHE FIXED HERSELF A GIANT COCKTAIL...



YOU KNEW THAT YOU SHOULD ESCAPE, THAT'S PRETTY MUCH STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE FOR FICTIONAL HEROES WHO FIND THEMSELVES AMONG HUGE (& BITCHY) BEINGS... ... BUT YOU KINDA' WANTED TO STICK AROUND AND TRY ON ONE OF THEIR GIANT FREDERICK'S OF HOLLYWOOD PUMPS...



GAY MAN'S TAKE ON JURASSIC

Dykes To Watch Out For



the
fairies'
midwife

BABE, LISTEN. I REALLY CAN'T GET AWAY THIS AFTERNOON. DO YOU MIND GOING TO SEE THE MIDWIFE WITHOUT ME, JUST THIS ONCE?

WELL OF COURSE I MIND, CLARICE! BUT IF YOU CAN'T COME, YOU CAN'T COME. I JUST WISH YOU'D GET YOUR PRIORITIES STRAIGHT!

SLAM

LATER, AT THE BIRTH CENTER...

TONI, WHEN YOU'RE DONE WEIGHING YOURSELF AND TESTING YOUR URINE, MIRIAM'S READY TO SEE YOU.

TONI! COME ON IN, HOW. YOU LOOK RADIANT! WHERE'S CLARICE?

OH, MIRIAM... SHE'S TOTALLY WRAPPED UP IN THIS NEW JOB! LAST NIGHT SHE MISSED OUR PRENATAL CLASS. I FEEL LIKE SHE'S BACKING OUT ON ME.

H.M. SOUNDS A BIT LIKE MY EX-HUSBAND WHEN I WAS PREGNANT WITH ALEX. DO ABOUT IT? GET ON THE TABLE.

WHAT DID YOU LEFT HIM AND MOVED INTO A LESBIAN COMMUNE.

MIRIAM! I'M NOT GOING TO LEAVE HER! BESIDES, I DON'T THINK THEY HAVE LESBIAN COMMUNES ANYMORE.

OH, DON'T WORRY, DARLIN'. I THINK CLARICE IS THERE FOR YOU. MAYBE SHE'S JUST UNSURE OF HER ROLE. SOMETIMES IT'S HARD FOR THE NONBIOLOGICAL MOM TO KNOW EXACTLY WHERE SHE FITS IN.

WE'VE GOT A LOVELY HEARTBEAT HERE. HAS THERE BEEN MUCH MOVEMENT GOING ON?

YES, A LOT! LAST NIGHT IN BED, I WAS HOLDING CLARICE, AND SHE FELT THE BABY KICK HER IN THE BUTT!

MEANWHILE...

OUR COURT DATE IS WHEN?

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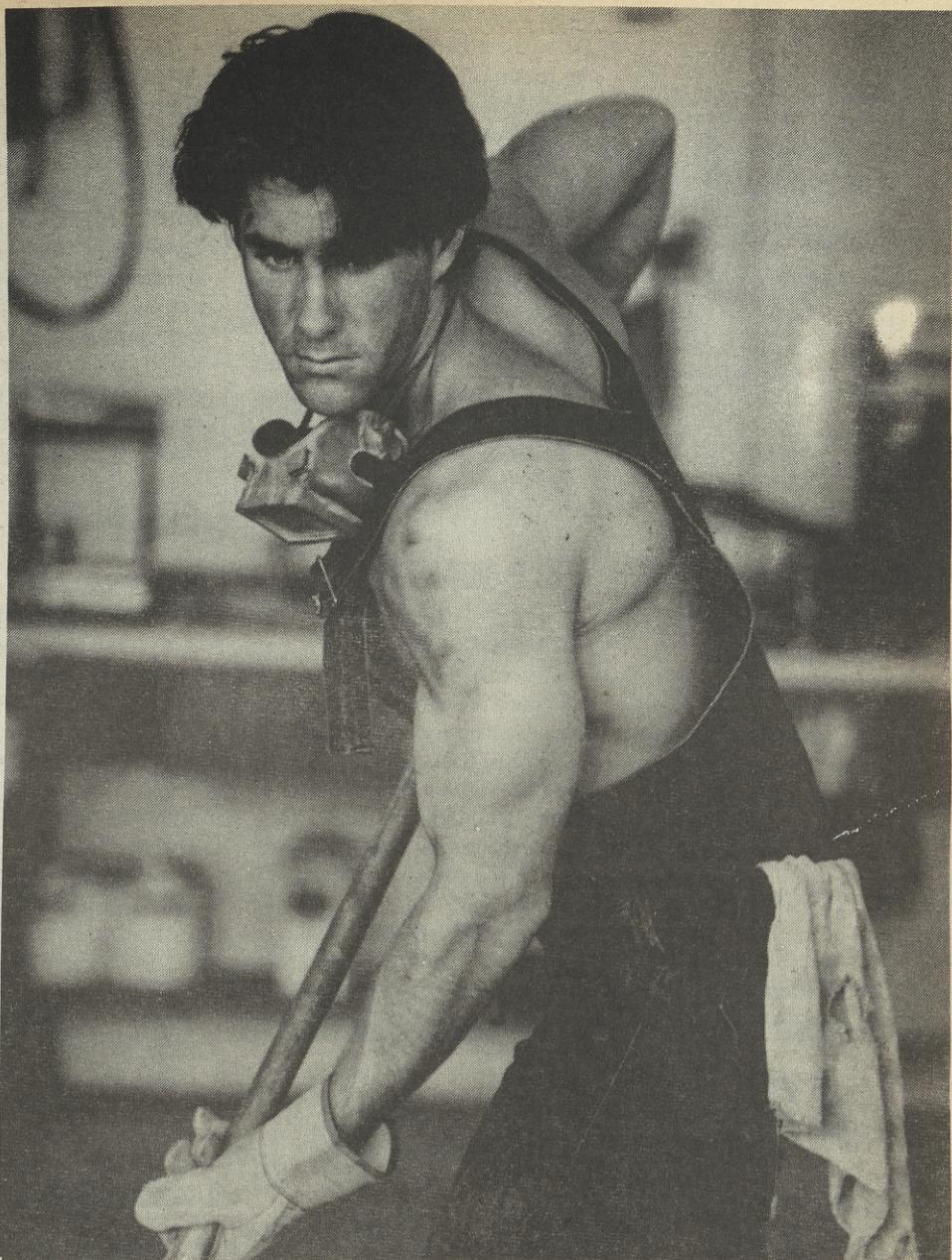
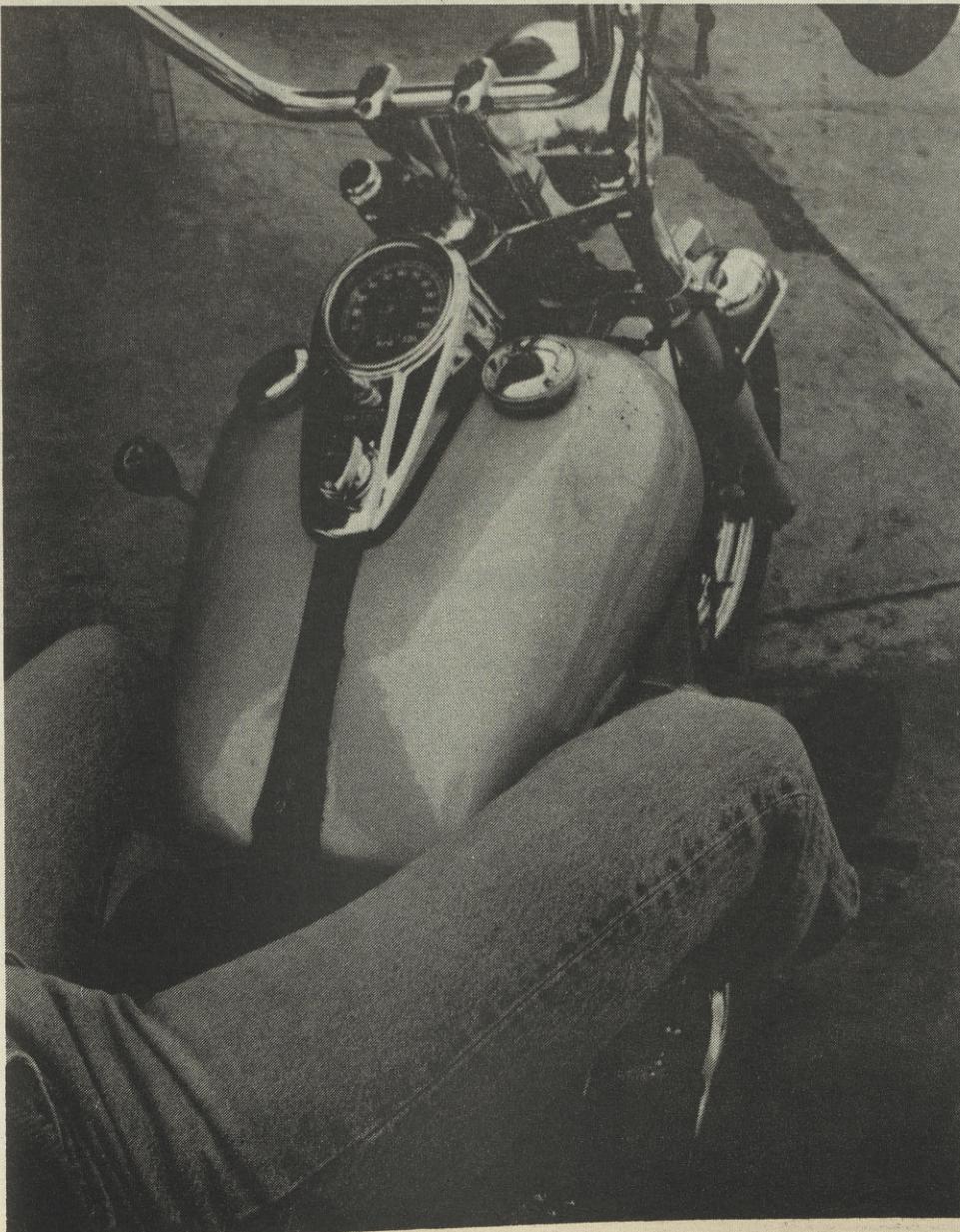
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Finally, a pen friend club for those who are home-bound, but still want to make friends. For additional information call, ask for Dana. (916) 391-7070 or write to Dana, 6222 Riverside Blvd., Suite C-25, Sac., CA 95831. And there's more too! Call/write to find out!

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ACTION ALERT!

Volunteer to help elect California's first openly gay Assemblyman, former Santa Cruz Mayor and Santa Cruz AIDS Project executive director, John Laird. Organizers are needed for voter mobilizations each weekend from through August. Carpool to beautiful Santa Cruz County. Contact campaign field director, Tai Mamoe at 408-454-9244. Be a part of this historic victory!!

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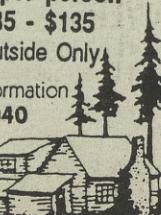
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RAVE

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Second Wind

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Country Hoe-Down
in the Tent with
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Saturday, Sept. 4

MARTHA WASH



11 p.m. in the Tent

Sunday, Sept. 5

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